United Nations A/ES-10/59–S/2001/156

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 February 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 21 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I regret to inform you that the Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, continues to cause loss of life and injury to Palestinian civilians as well as grave living conditions. In recent days, the Israeli occupying forces have committed brutal acts resulting in the killing of more Palestinian civilians, serious injuries and the destruction of homes and property. In this regard, one of the killings was clearly another targeted assassination carried out by the forces of the occupying Power.

Since our last letter to you, dated 13 February 2001 (A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131), on this grave matter, 10 Palestinian civilians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the 10 martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) Further, in follow-up to our previous letters in this regard, dated from 29 September 2000 to 13 February 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; and A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131), I regret to inform you that this brings the total number of Palestinians killed by the occupying forces to 358 martyrs.

This continued killing and injuring of Palestinian civilians by the forces of the occupying Power in its ongoing military campaign in the Occupied Palestinian Territory are a matter of daily grave concern to which the international community should give its serious attention.

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I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Marwan **Jilani**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex to the identical letters dated 21 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Wednesday, 14 February, through Tuesday, 20 February 2001)

Wednesday, 14 February 2001

Ayed Tawfiq Abu Jarab

Thursday, 15 February 2001

1. Nasser Mohammed Al-Hassnat
2. Mohammed Ali Zuhair

Friday, 16 February 2001

1. Anwar Mustafa Mere i
2. Issam Rashid Al-Tawil
3. Shaker Suleiman Al-Manasreh
4. Mohammed Ismail Al-Hawamdeh

Sunday, 18 February 2001

Ahmad Ismail Faraj-Allah

Monday, 19 February 2001

Mahmoud Suleiman Al-Madani

Tuesday, 20 February 2001

Mohammed Ibrahim Al-Korbi (18 years old)

United Nations A/ES-10/60 S/2001/175

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 February 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 27 February 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Yesterday, 26 February 2001, the spokesman for the so-called Jewish settlement movement in the West Bank and Gaza Strip called for the assassination of President Yasser Arafat. Mr. Yehoshua Mor-Yosef said, "Arafat is an enemy. He never was a partner. After seven years of war and him sending his own people to kill, we need to assassinate him." The spokesman also stated that his views reflect those of the Settlers' Council, an umbrella group for illegal settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which has established links with the Israeli Ministry of Defense and the office of the Prime Minister and is largely financed by the Israeli Government. Similar provocative statements calling for President Arafat's assassination were also made yesterday by Mr. Shlomo Filber, the secretary-general of the above-mentioned Council.

Israeli settlers, who have been illegally transferred by the occupying Power to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, in grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and in total violation of relevant Security Council resolutions, and their actions remain the exclusive responsibility of the occupying Power. Needless to say, these recent statements and their potentially serious repercussions take their illegal and immoral presence in the Occupied Territory to a new level of incitement and hostility, for which we hold the Israeli Government fully responsible.

Further, in follow-up to my previous letters to you, dated from 29 September 2000 to 21 February 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185;

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A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; and A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156). I wish to draw your attention to the continuing Israeli military campaign being waged against the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Since my last letter to you on 21 February 2001, three more Palestinian civilians, including a 15-year-old boy, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the three martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) These killings bring the total number of Palestinians killed by the occupying forces to 361 martyrs.

In closing, it should be emphasized that the occupying Power's continued killing and injuring of Palestinian civilians in its brutal military campaign in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, as well as its obvious assassination policy and the escalating incitement and provocation mentioned above, are grave issues, to which we believe the international community must give serious attention. Such attention should aim at bringing an end to these Israeli violations and to providing protection for the Palestinian people.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 27 February 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Friday, 23 February through Monday, 26 February 2001)

Friday, 23 February 2001

Raed Mahmoud Hussein Mousa

Sunday, 25 February 2001

Mohammed Eissa Al-Jalad

Monday, 26 February 2001

Hussam Imad El-Deesy (15 years old)

United Nations A/ES-10/61–S/2001/189

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
2 March 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 2 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues with its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Four more Palestinian civilians, including two children, died today as a result of shootings by the Israel occupying forces. One of the martyrs was a nine-year old boy, who was shot while playing with a group of children beneath his family's apartment in Al-Bireh. The other child was a 13-year-old boy, who was shot on Tuesday, 27 February, and died from the wounds he had sustained.

Commenting on one of those killed today, the spokesman for the Israeli army said: "Soldiers saw a man who was preparing to detonate a bomb and shot him, killing him instantly." This frequent, false justification for killings used by the Israeli army once again proved to be a lie. The man turned out to be a poor, mentally ill person, savagely shot by the soldiers in Gaza, who riddled his body with dart-like projectiles. According to hospital officials and paramedics, he was shot in the skull, spine and other parts of the body with more than a dozen projectiles of this unknown ammunition.

In another brutal action on 27 February, the Israeli occupying forces killed a Palestinian man, who was sitting in his home in Al-Bireh, with a direct hit by tank shell. Such criminal Israeli behaviour and all other grave breaches of the fourth Geneva Convention and violations of instruments of international law being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, must be urgently brought to an end. The international community, represented by the United Nations, bears a clear responsibility in ending this Israeli military campaign and providing protection to the Palestinian civilians.

Since 18 December 2000, the day the Security Council failed to adopt a draft resolution that would have led to the establishment of a United Nations force of military and police observers to be dispatched throughout the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, 62 Palestinians have been killed and thousands injured, many

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critically and permanently. Some of those lives surely could have been saved had the Council undertaken its responsibilities and acted on that day. We call upon the Council to take the necessary action with regard to the establishment of the force, thus contributing to halting the bloodshed and hopefully breathing life into the Middle East peace process.

In follow-up of my previous letters to you, dated from 29 September 2000 to 27 February 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES/-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; and A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175), I am enclosing in the annex to the present letter the names of the five Palestinian martyrs killed since my last letter. The killing of these 5 civilians brings the total number of Palestinians killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 29 September 2000 to 366 martyrs.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 2 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Tuesday, 27 February, through Friday, 2 March 2001)

Tuesday, 27 February 2001

Na'im Ahmed Al-Badareen

Friday, 2 March 2001

1. Ubay Darraj (9 years old)
2. Mohammed Mahmoud Hellis (13 years old, from wounds sustained on 27 February)
3. Mustafa Al-Ramlawi
4. Abdel Karim Issa

United Nations A/ES-10/62–S/2001/207

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
8 March 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 7 March 2001 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I should like to draw your attention, as a matter of urgency, to the present alarming situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem.

The Committee has been greatly worried about the continuing violence on the ground and the use of deadly force by the Israeli army and security forces, which, by some accounts, has led to over 350 Palestinian deaths. According to media reports, Israel continues to rely on the use of massive armed response to individual outbreaks of Palestinian protest throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Since September 2000, some 12,000 Palestinians have been injured in confrontations with the Israeli forces and settlers. Also, our Committee wishes to join the rest of the international community in its indignation over the Israeli practice of extrajudicial killings by Israeli security forces of the members of the Palestinian leadership and other Palestinian officials. This policy is contrary to the rule of international law; it provokes further violence, leads to a crisis of trust and confidence between the two sides and creates new obstacles to peace. The Committee is of the view that, with the situation continuing to deteriorate, the international community should act by stepping up its efforts to ensure protection of the Palestinian people. We also strongly believe that the status quo is absolutely untenable and is firmly rooted in Israel's continued violation of the principles of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and the provisions of relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. By these actions, Israel has clearly demonstrated its unwillingness to respect the bilateral agreements and understandings reached to date.

The Committee views with particular concern the dangerously rapid disintegration of the Palestinian economy as a result of various restrictive policies of the Government of Israel. Protracted closures of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, tight restrictions on the movement of people and goods, customs and tax income withholding and other measures of collective punishment

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have had a disastrous effect on the Palestinian economy as a whole, as well as on individual Palestinian households. Jobs and markets in Israel have become inaccessible, tourists have stayed away because of the violence, food crops have been razed and fields have been blocked out of reach. The Palestinians have been forced to revert to a day-to-day struggle for their survival, rather than work for long-term development and prosperity. Infrastructure built or renovated with a lot of effort and with invaluable assistance from the international donor community has been damaged and development projects have had to be abandoned or frozen indefinitely. These are the conditions to which the Palestinians are being forced to resign themselves until stability is restored and peace is achieved.

The recent reports by the office of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories have also raised concern over the impending fiscal crisis of the Palestinian Authority and its capacity to continue to function. We fully share the view that the fiscal situation of the Palestinian Authority should be at the top of the agenda of the international community.

Alarmed by the catastrophic state of the Palestinian economy and by the social and economic impact of the continuing conflict and the policy of closures, our Committee decided to convene the United Nations Seminar on Assistance to the Palestinian People. The event took place on 20 and 21 February 2001, at the United Nations Office at Vienna. The purpose of the Seminar was to examine the state of the economy, review efforts by Member States and intergovernmental and civil society organizations aimed at alleviating the current humanitarian emergency and mobilize greater support for the attainment of the legitimate economic rights of the Palestinian people, thus contributing to the broader peace-building efforts in the region.

The participants in the Seminar acknowledged the need for an intensified provision of humanitarian assistance by the international donor community in order to meet the emergency needs of the Palestinian people. The donors were called upon to disburse, on an urgent basis, the necessary funds to address the serious fiscal crisis of the Palestinian Authority. The Seminar also called on the Occupying Power to abide by its obligations under international law and to immediately terminate its measures of collective punishment that have caused the tragic loss of human life and serious destruction of Palestinian property, livelihood and infrastructure.

In light of the above, the Committee wishes to reiterate its position of principle that the United Nations should continue to exercise its permanent responsibility towards all the aspects of the question of Palestine until it is resolved in a satisfactory manner, in conformity with relevant United Nations resolutions and in accordance with norms of international law, and until the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are fully realized. We believe that the United Nations family should continue to render various forms of assistance to the Palestinian people. In the present circumstances, the efforts of the office of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories acquire special significance.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibra Deguène **Ka**
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People